

**Project Title** Saving Our Cents

**Contact Information** Corey Ernst

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AFI Grant Amount \$22,000

Nonfederal Support \$22,000

**Project Period** September 2003 – September 2008

**Highlights** Southeastern North Dakota Community Action Agency

(CAA) is building upon an existing AFI Project to offer 11 additional IDAs: 7-9 homeownership, 2-4 microenterprise, and 2-4 post-secondary education. The match rate is \$2 to \$1, up to \$2,000 in participant savings over 60 months. Participants work closely with Self-Reliance case

managers/family development specialists in each partnering agency and attend regular financial management classes. Beyond core training, supportive services include employment support, childcare, crisis management,

structured planning exercises, mentoring, and other support.

**Target Population** Counties comprising the majority of North Dakota.

**Grantee/Collaborative Description** Southeastern North Dakota CAA is expanding its

partnership to three additional CAAs in this collaborative. Each is contributing match funds, conducting outreach, recruiting and selecting participants, and providing case management. CAAs include Community Action Opportunities, Inc., Dakota Prairie Community Action Agency, and Community Action Region VII. Four banks waived account fees and are supporting financial education: Bremer Bank, BNC National Bank, First Western Bank and Trust, and Ramsey National Bank and Trust Company.

Matching funds are from CAAs in the State.